

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 229505

21

ORIGIN ABF-01

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E, IO, L, TREASURY, TRANSPORTATION, CAB, S/IG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR GAO MR. SHELEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGAO, EAIR

SUBJECT: GAO REVIEW: USG ASSISTANCE TO U.S. INTERNATIONAL
AIRLINES

1. OVER PAST MONTHS, THE U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE
HAS BEEN REVIEWING USG ASSISTANCE TO U.S. INTERNATIONAL
AIRLINES, PARTICULARLY THAT CALLED FOR IN RECENTLY
ENACTED INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION FAIR COMPETITIVE
PRACTICES ACT (P.L. 93-623). UNDER THE ACT, STATE, ALONG
WITH OTHER USG AGENCIES, IS CHARGED WITH REVIEWING ALL FORMS
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PAGE 02 STATE 229505

OF DISCRIMINATION BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AGAINST U.S.

AIRLINES, ATTEMPTING TO ALLEVIATE THEM, AND IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES IMPOSING COMPENSATORY CHARGES AGAINST THE AIRLINES OF THOSE COUNTRIES THAT PERSIST IN DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES. MORE GENERALLY, THE GAO WISHES TO LEARN THE CURRENT STATUS OF OUR AVIATION RELATIONSHIPS, TO GAIN INSIGHT INTO HOW AIR NEGOTIATIONS ARE CARRIED OUT, AND TO ASSESS THE EQUITY OF AIR TRANSPORT RELATIONS. TO DATE, REVIEW HAS BEEN CONDUCTED IN WASH., D.C. (STATE, TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, CAB), AND AT EMBASSIES MEXICO, BONN, THE HAGUE, LONDON, PARIS, AND ROME.

2. GAO NOW INFORMS DEPARTMENT THAT SUBJECT REVIEW IS TO BE CONDUCTED AT ADDRESSEE POSTS, APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS EACH COUNTRY, WITH WORK TO BE PERFORMED BY AUDITORS GAO FAR EAST BRANCH (HONOLULU) ALONG FOLLOWING TIMEFRAME: MANILA OCTOBER 19-29; TOKYO NOVEMBER 1-15. GAO BRANCH DIRECTOR WILL NOTIFY RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES REGARDING NAMES AND SECURITY CLEARANCES OF AUDITORS (TWO-MAN TEAM), PLUS ACTUAL ARRIVAL DATES.

3. GAO AUDITORS PLAN MEET ONLY WITH APPROPRIATE EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND U.S. AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES. IF APPOINTMENTS OR CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OR FOREIGN AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD APPEAR DESIRABLE AFTER GAO AUDITORS ARRIVE, EMBASSY SHOULD CONSULT DEPARTMENT. GAO AWARE THAT SUCH CONTACTS ARE AT DISCRETION OF AMBASSADOR, TO BE ARRANGED FOR BY EMBASSY, AND WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS.

4. QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS ARISING DURING COURSE OF REVIEW SHOULD ALSO BE REFERRED TO DEPARTMENT. HABIB

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